

Message Text

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21

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R 170047Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USCINCSO

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, LA

SUBJECT:TRADE POLICY TEAM VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

1. IN HIS STATEMENTS BEFORE THE OASGA IN SANTIAGO, SECRETARY KISSINGER INDICATED THAT A TRADE POLICY TEAM WOULD BE VISITING LATIN AMERICA TO CONSULT ON THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. PURSUANT TO THIS, WE ARE PROPOSING THAT A TEAM HEADED BY AMBASSADOR CLAYTON YEUTTER OF STR VISIT SELECTED LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES IN A TWO-WEEK PERIOD BEGINNING AUGUST 29. WE WOULD PROPOSE THAT TEAM'S ITINERARY INCLUDE COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND POSSIBLY A CARICOM AND CACM CAPITAL (SEE PARA 4).

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2. FOCUS OF DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN). IMPORTANT BILATERAL TRADE MATTERS WOULD ALSO BE DISCUSSED BUT WE WOULD HOPE TO AVOID LONG LAUNDRY LIST AGENDA OF BILATERAL TRADE PROBLEMS. PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TO IMPROVE OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING IN TRADE, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO THE MTN AND ITS POSSIBILITIES FOR EXPANDING TRADE WORLDWIDE AND BETWEEN THE U.S. AND LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

3. WE EXPECT TO DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO MTN ISSUES OF INTEREST TO LATIN AMERICA SUCH AS TROPICAL PRODUCTS, SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, GATT REFORM, TARIFF DISPARITIES, ETC. IN ADDITION, WE HOPE TO USE THE TRIP TO ENHANCE SUPPORT BY THE LATIN COUNTRIES FOR OUR BASIC OBJECTIVES IN THE MTN AND IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY GENERALLY.

4. DECISION ON COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE DEGREE OF INTEREST IN HAVING SUCH A VISIT IN HOST COUNTRIES. COUNTRIES PROPOSED ABOVE WERE SELECTED IN PART ON BASIS OF THEIR RELATIVE IMPORTANCE IN THE MTN AND SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES (MEXICO WAS EXCLUDED BECAUSE OF VERY RECENT BILATERAL TRADE DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON COVERING THE SAME AGENDA ITEMS).

5. WE REGRET TIME CONSTRAINTS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO VISIT EACH CACM, CARICOM AND ANDEAN PACT CAPITAL. DURING A SIMILAR VISIT BY FORMER STR AMBASSADOR EBERLE IN THE SPRING OF 1974, PARTICULARLY USEFUL SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS WERE HELD WITH CARICOM, HAITI AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN BRIDGETOWN AND CACM IN MANAGUA. TEAM WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IF OFFICIALS FROM OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES TO THE ANDEAN PACT JOINING DISCUSSIONS IN BOGOTA OR CARACAS. ALSO TEAM WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO OFFICIALS FROM THE THREE REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ATTENDING THE MEETINGS, IF INVITED.

6. FOR CACM, CARICOM AND ANDEAN PACT CAPITALS: EMBASSIES SHOULD MAKE LOW KEY APPROACH TO HOST GOVERNMENTS LEAVING DECISION AS TO ADVISABILITY OF GROUP MEETINGS AND PLACE OF MEETING, IF IT TAKES PLACE, TO MEMBER COUNTRIES OF REGIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORGANIZATIONS TO WORK OUT THEMSELVES.

7. FOR POSTS CONTEMPLATED TO BE VISITED: POSTS SHOULD APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS AND ASCERTAIN THEIR RECEPTIVITY TO THE PROPOSED VISIT AND TIMING AND ANY GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO TYPE OF VISIT AND AGENDA. SINCE AMBASSADOR YEUTTER SPEAKS FLUENT SPANISH, HE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY INDICATION WHERE LOCAL APPEARANCES WOULD BE HELPFUL, E.G.,

USIA PROGRAMS, CHAMBER PRESENTATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES.

8. POSTS NOT ON THE ITINERARY: POSTS ARE INVITED TO
SUBMIT COMMENTS ON PROPOSED ITINERARY. HOWEVER, ITINERARY
WAS CHOSEN WITH IDEA THAT IT WAS BETTER TO STOP AT A FEW
KEY COUNTRIES THAN DO WHIRL-WIND TRIP AROUND LATIN AMERICA.
KISSINGER

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